

Remarks/Arguments

The Final Office Action mailed February 20, 2004 has been received and carefully considered. Claims 1 - 14 are pending in the application.

Claims 1 - 4 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by Bril (U.S. Patent No. 6,259,487, hereinafter "Bril"). Claims 7 - 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Bril. Claims 1, 7 and 12 - 13 are objected to for informalities. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The objections have been corrected in accordance with the Examiner's comments and Applicant now submit that objections to Claims 1, 7 and 12 - 13 have been overcome.

The present invention is directed to providing interoperability between multiple electronic devices that are connected together via a digital data bus, for example the IEEE 1394 bus. In particular, the present invention recognizes that when a digital apparatus, for example a DTV, which is capable of processing a digital stream representative of a video program, is coupled to a peripheral device, it is desirable to enable the apparatus to receive OSD data associated with the peripheral device in bit-mapped form, and to combine the bit-mapped data with the digital stream to produce a signal representative of a combined displayable image.

Independent Claim 1 recites:

(a) means for receiving from a peripheral device, interconnected by a digital bus, bit-mapped data representative of an on-screen display associated with said peripheral device;

(b) means for receiving a digital stream representative of a video program; and

(c) means for combining, in said digital apparatus, said bit-mapped data received from said peripheral device and said digital stream to produce a signal representative of a combined displayable image (emphasis added)

However, and in contrast to the present invention, Bril describes a television system which includes an on-screen display (OSD) controller, which stores the network application data and other display entities in a memory module as separate bit maps (see Abstract, col. 2 lines 9 - 18, col. 3, lines 64 - 66). Further, specifically the "data may be received in one of known formats such as ASCII, HTML, VRML etc. which are

encoded as electrical signals" (see col. 5, lines 63 - 65). That is, Brill specifically calls for the network interface 110 to receive encoded data. "The OSD controller 170 transforms the network application data as is suitable for storage and retrieval from memory module 180" (see col. 6, lines 9 - 11). While Brill stores the OSD data as bit-maps, the OSD receives encoded signals transforming the encoded signals into bit maps for storage. Further, Brill describes storing the network application data and other display entities in a memory module as separate bit maps.

Thus, in fact, Brill teaches away from both receiving bit-mapped OSD data from a peripheral device and from combining and storing the bit-mapped OSD data together with a digital stream to produce a combined displayable image. Accordingly, Brill also does not expressly disclose the apparatus recited in independent claim 1 and highlighted above.

Independent Claim 7 recites:

receiving, from said peripheral device, a message indicative of the characteristics of a block of bit-mapped data stored in a memory device associated with said peripheral device, said bit-mapped data being associated with an on-screen display menu of said peripheral device;

(b) generating and providing asynchronous read request command to said peripheral device;

(c) receiving, in response to said asynchronous read request command, said bit-mapped data from said peripheral device;

(d) receiving a digital stream representative of a video program; and

(e) combining said bit-mapped data received from said peripheral device and said digital stream to produce a combined displayable image, said combined image being representative of said on-screen display associated with said peripheral device (emphasis added)

For similar reasons Brill does not expressly disclose the method recited in independent claim 7 and highlighted above.

Independent Claim 10 recites:

(a) means for receiving from a peripheral device, interconnected by a digital bus, bit-mapped data representative of an on-screen display associated with said peripheral device;

(b) means for receiving from said peripheral device, interconnected by a said digital bus, subsequent bit-mapped data representative of an updated portion of said previously transferred bit-mapped data, said subsequent bit-mapped data being indexed into said previously transferred bit-mapped data; and

(c) means for combining, in said digital television, said bit-mapped data or said subsequent bit-mapped data with a received digital stream representative of a video program to generate a combined displayable image (emphasis added)

For similar reasons Bril does not expressly disclose the apparatus recited in independent claim 10 and highlighted above.

In light of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 7 and 10 are not anticipated and patentable over the art of record. Claims 2 - 6 and 11 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that Claims 2 - 6 and 11 are also not anticipated and patentable over the art of record for at least these reasons as well as additional features contained therein. The Examiner has also indicated that Claims 5 - 6 and 11 are allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 8 - 9 and 12 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 7. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that Claims 8 - 9 and 12 are also not anticipated and patentable over the art of record for at least these reasons as well as additional features contained therein. The Examiner has also indicated that Claim 12 is allowable over the art of record. Claims 13 - 14 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 10. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that Claims 13 - 14 are also not anticipated and patentable over the art of record for at least these reasons as well as additional features contained therein. The Examiner having also indicated that Claims 13 - 14 are allowable over the art of record.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6440, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,

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<u>7/19/04</u> Date	<u>Jennifer L. Agins</u> Jennifer L. Agins

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